

Message Text

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TO USINFO IMMEDIATE

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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION

USINFO FOR IAA, PBR/M, IPS AND IBS

1. "VAOVAO" (OFFICIAL GOMR WEB
LY) FRIDAY, JULY 18

HAS A LENGTHY ARTICLE ENTITLED THE "AFFAIRE NASA".

AND OPENINVPROVERB STATED: LIKE THE FISH IN THE ITASY

LAKE (LAKE SITUATED IN FWESNTANANARIVE), THE BIG ONES

EAT THE SMALL ONES. JUDGING FORM THE BEHAVIOR OF IMPERIALIST

GOVERNMENTS, SUCH AS THE UNITED STATES, THIS PROVERB

APPEARS TO BE ABOUT NASA.

IN 1963, THE MALAGASY AND AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS AGREED

TO CONSTRUCT IN IMERINTSIATOSIKA A SATELLITE TRACKING

STATION.

THE EXPENDITURES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND THE EQUIPMENT

WOULD BE THE RESPONSIBILRQY OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT. THE

MALAGASY GOVERNMENT WOULD RENT OUT THE NECESSARY LAND FOR

ITS CONSTRUCTION.

THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT GAVE ITS FULL ACCORD TO RENT

THE LAND.

THE GOMR OBLIGATION WOULD BE TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUC-

TION AND THE WORK.

WE WILL DEAL WITH THE RENTAL OF THE LAND IN THIS

ARTICLE.

IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT THIS ALSO INVOLVED PRIVATE

TERRAIN. NOW THEN, THE U.S. HAS "SWALLOWED" THE RENT

OF PUBLIC AS WELL AS PRIVATE PROPERTY.

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THE AGREEMENT, SIGNED IN 1963 EXPIRED IN 1967 AND IT

WAS RENEWED AND EXTENDED UNTIL 1973. THE 1973 AGREEMENT IS STILL VALID IN 1975, AT WHICH TIME THIS QUESTION HAS ARISEN.

SUSPICIOUS OFG74 *483,\$ #80, WE ARE FORCED TO COME TO AN UNDERSTANDING. HOWEVER, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS PURPOSELY IGNORED OUR PATIENCE, AND HAS ABUSED IT. IN 1970, WE TRIED ONCE AGAIN TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT. THEY PROMISED TO PAY THE RENT, BUT THIS WAS ONLY TALK.

IN 1973, OUR LAST ATTEMPT WAS ONCE AGAIN A TRICK BY THE AMERICANS.

THEY HAVE DEVELOPED A VERY BAD HABIT.

ARE WE ON THE VERGE OF A BREAK? THE ANSWER IS PROBABLY NO. A MARRIAGE WHICH WAS NEVER MADE SHOULD NOT CAUSE A BREAK IN FRIENDSHIP.

NEVERTHELESS, SOME LESSONS CAN BE DRAWN FROM THESE EVENTS:

A. THE MALAGASY ARE NOT THE ONES WHO HAVE NOT KEPT THEIR WORD. WE ARE A DEVELOPING COUNTRY. NONETHELESS, WE DO NOT ACCEPT SUBJUGATION.

B. THE MALAGASY FAVOR FRIENDLY RELATIONS. FOR US, IT IS SOCIALISM... BUT, A CHILD, AS DEAR AS HE MAY BE, ONCE HE BITES, ITS MOTHER PUSHES IT AWAY.

C. THE MALAGASY ARE FIGHTING FOR EQUALITY, IT IS FOR THIS REASON WE HOLD NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY IN THE COUNTRIES WE CONSIDER STRONG.

D. A COUNTRY WHICH STRIVES TO BE A LEADER, SUCH AS AMERICA, SHOULD NOT BE THE CHAMPION OF LITTLE COUNTRIES.

E. A PEOPLE WHO ARE GENEROUS, LIKE THE AMERICANS, SHOULD NOT BE SELFISH.

F. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, CHAMPIONS OF HAPPINESS AND LIBERTY, SHOULD NOT REFUSE THE MALAGASY THE MINOR AMOUNT OF RENT WHEN THEY HAVE NOT HESITATED TO SPEND ENORMOUS SUMS- MILLIONS AND MILLIONS OF DOLLARS FOR WARS.

G. WE SHOULD RECOGNIZE THAT OUR DELEGATES WHO SIGNED THE AGREEMENTS IN '63, '67 AND '70 LET THEMSELVES BE COMINATED AND THE PRESENT GENERATION IS SUFFERING THE CONSEQUENCES. FORTUNATELY, OUR AWARENESS ALLIED WITH BOLDNESS HAS NOT LED US TO KNEEL.

THE AMERICAN ATTITUDE IS SURPRISING. IF THEY HAVE BEEN ABLE TO LIVE WITH US TOGETHER AT ALL, IT IS BECAUSE THEY UNCLASSIFIED

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THEY KNOW THAT IF THEY WANT TO STAY IN THE COUNTRY, THEY MUST CONFORM TO THE LAWS OF THE COUNTRY.

2. "IMONGO VAOVAO" (AKFM) THURSDAY, JULY 24 COMMENTED ON THE SITUATION IN THE COMORO ISLANDS AND EMPHASIZED THE DANGER THREATENING THE LITTORAL STATES DUE TO IMPERIALISTS INTRIGUES. IT CALLED FOR MADAGASCAR TO

SIGN A PEACE TREATY WITH THE BIG POWERS WITH WHICH IT
MAINTAINS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, SUCH AS THE SOVIET
UNION, THE UNITED STATES, COMMUNIST CHINA, FRANCE,
ENGLAND, JAPAN, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND
THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC.

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